Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Texas

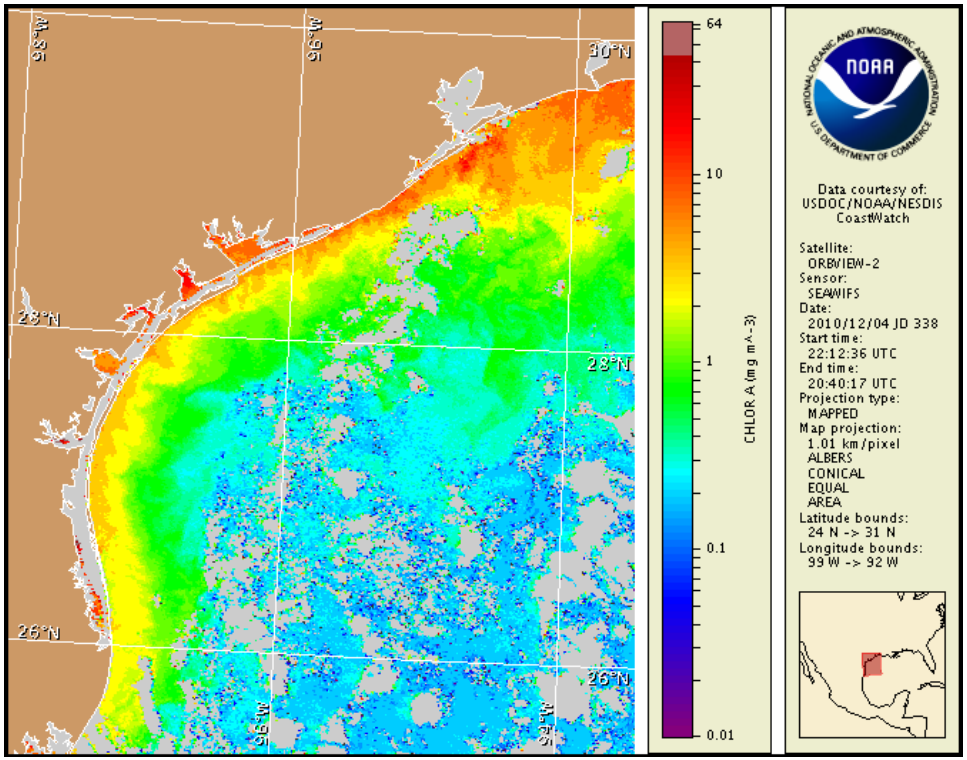
6 December 2010

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: November 29, 2010



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from November 29 to December 1 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

Conditions Report

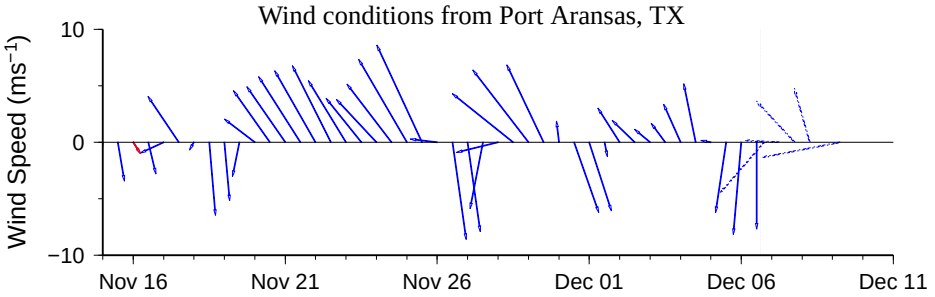
There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom at the coast in Texas. No impacts are expected alongshore Texas today through Sunday, December 12.

Analysis

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom along the coast of Texas. Patches of elevated chlorophyll are visible in the imagery along much of the Texas coastline, including a broad band of elevated to high chlorophyll (3 to >10 μg/L) stretching along- and offshore from Port Arthur to Port Aransas. Patches of elevated chlorophyll (2-4 μg/L) are also visible south of Port Aransas, along- and offshore Padre and South Padre Islands. Elevated chlorophyll appears to be due to the resuspension of benthic chlorophyll and sediments as a result of strong winds over the past several days and is most likely not related to a harmful algal bloom.

Forecast models indicate a potential maximum transport of 20km south along the coast from Port Aransas from December 4-9.

Derner, Kavanaugh

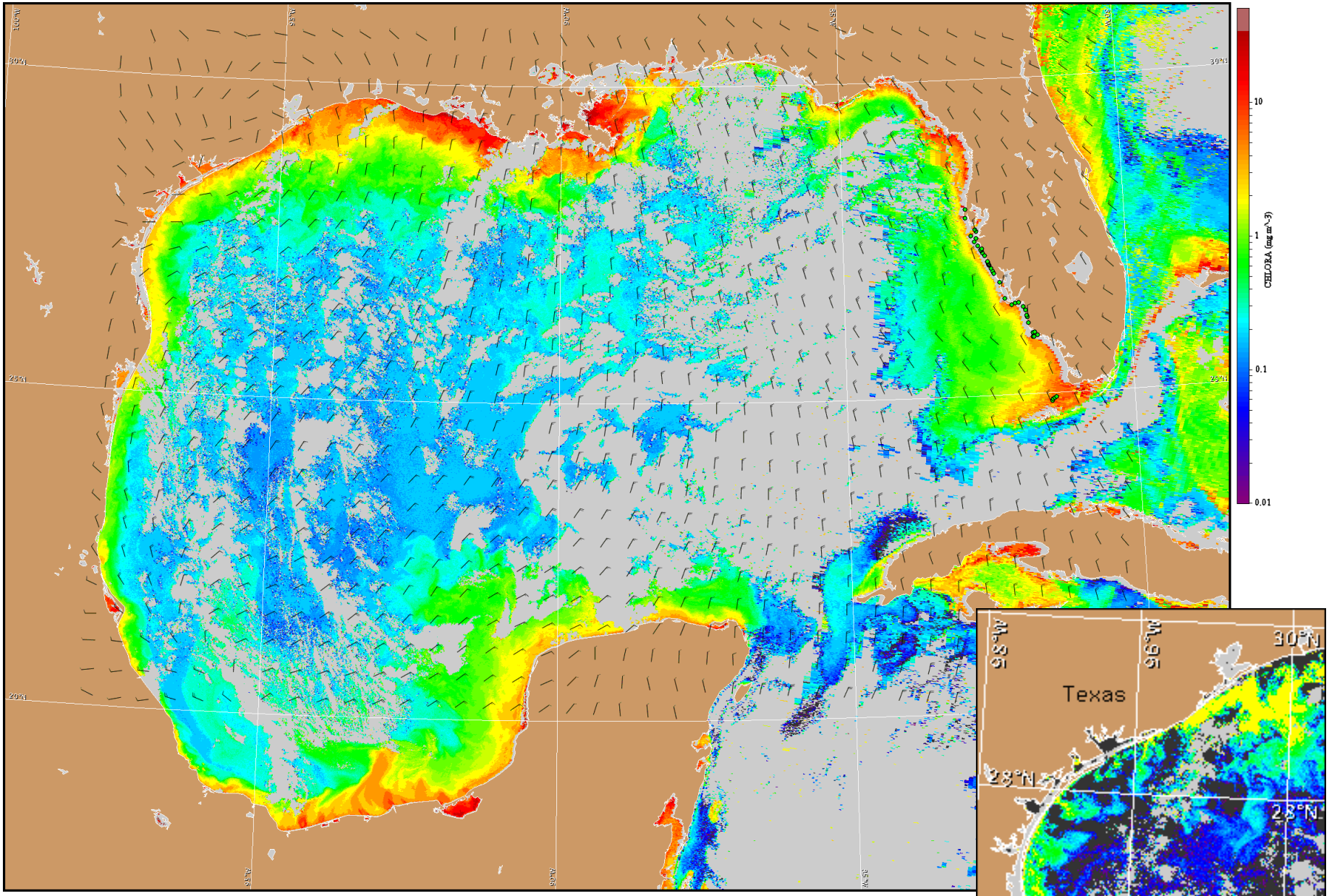


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).

Wind Analysis

North to northeast winds (10-20kn, 5-10m/s) today. East to southeast winds (5-15kn, 3-8m/s) Tuesday, becoming northwest (15-20kn, 8-10m/s) early Wednesday morning. North wind Wednesday (20-25kn, 10-13m/s), becoming northeast (10-15kn, 5-8m/s). South to southeast winds (5-15kn) Thursday. South wind (10-20kn) Friday.

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Operational Forecast System bulletin archive: http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for December 7, 2010 06Z with Cell concentration sampling data from November 29 to December 1 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide: http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).